Shifting of Kota Airport

37. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kota airport is now surrounded by residential colonies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that shifting of this airport is under Government's consideration for a long time; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A technical team of National Airports Authority is expected to visit Kota shortly for survey and proper evaluation of the proposal made by the City Development Board to shift the airport outside the city.

Losses suffered by Vayudoot

38. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of total loss suffered by Vayudoot, till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that this loss is irrecoverable;

(c) whether Government propose to close down Vayudoot;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Upto 30th September, 1991, Vayudoot has a cumulative loss provisionally estimated at Rs. 145.73 crores.

(b) With the present fleet of aircraft, existing fare structure and the short-haul nature of operations, there is hardly any scope for recovering the losses already incurred by Vayudoot.

(c) to (e). Government is considering various options regarding the future set up of Vayudoot.

Violation of aircraft rules by Director General Civil Aviation

39. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the DGCA and the Inspector of Flying under DGCA were involved in an unprecedented violation of aircraft rules on the 9th February, 1991 at Safdarjung airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of two Islands of Lakshdweep by Private sector

40. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to give two Islands of Lakshdweep on lease to private sector, for developing them as tourist spots;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what method is proposed to be adopted by Government for leasing out these Islands and what are the conditionalities in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to give two Islands namely Thinkkara and Cheriyam with an area of approximately 41.8 hects. and 45.5 hects. respectively on long term lease for development of tourism resorts based on international competitive offers. Advertisements for inviting offers have already been placed in the press. Offers will be considered in accordance with investment policy, environment regulations and other related to need for development of tourism infrastructure and facilities in the country.